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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BRUSSELS 001466

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DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/ERA, EUR/RPM, INL/AAE, NEA/NGA
BUJUMBURA FOR AMBASSADOR YELLIN

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SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DIRECTOR OF THE EU'S
INTEGRATED RULE OF LAW MISSION FOR THE IRAQI CRIMINAL
JUSTICE SYSTEM

Classified By: USEU Political-Military Officer, Jeremy Brenner for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

1. (SBU) Summary: The EU Integrated Rule of Law Mission for the Iraqi criminal justice system plans to train 770 individuals from the senior management ranks of the police, the judiciary, and the penal system. The Director of the mission believes that police and military roles and tasks must be carefully delineated so that the community's interaction with the police services is as comfortable and positive as possible. The primary task is to promote Iraqi involvement by persuading the citizens that the police are working to make Iraqi cities safer for their people. End summary.

A Northern Ireland Hand at the Helm

2. (SBU) Stephen White, the director of the European Union's "EUROJUST LEX" rule of law training mission for the Iraqi criminal justice system, gave details of the program in an April 5 meeting with visiting Ambassador James Yellin. White, one of six Deputy Chief Constables in Northern Ireland until his retirement six months ago, was recruited to head the mission by Pieter Feith, Deputy Director General for European Security and Defense within the Council of the European Union. White, who has long experience in senior leadership training within the UK police, accompanied Feith on the fact-finding mission to Iraq in December 2004.

Distinguishing between Police and Military Roles

3. (SBU) White holds very strong views on community policing and the appropriate division between military and civil police roles in combating terrorism. He argues passionately that police in a democratic society must be seen by the local population to be the protectors of life and property. He summarizes his goal with the EUROJUST LEX mission as creating an Iraqi police force that will make cities safer for the Iraqi people.

The Training

4. (SBU) The mission will likely spend three months recruiting staff. Once it is underway, White expects to provide training outside of Iraq to 770 identified individuals. These will include senior judges, police officers, prosecutors, examining magistrates, and prison officials. The courses are limited to a maximum four weeks. White recognizes the inadequacy of this constrained period, but said that he would consider it a success to get the Iraqis enrolled even for such a short course. The training will cover operational subjects such as combating kidnapping, narcotics, money laundering, terrorism, and cross-border infiltration. It will also teach management skills in areas such as human resources, human rights, and finance and budget issues. According to White, the curriculum for his program is the same as that developed by ICITAP for the US training program in Jordan.

Measures of Success

5. (SBU) White identifies five measures of a successful police service. 1) It must be effective. By this he means, among other things, that the police must have the trust of the public so that witnesses are willing to come forward and there is public support for their efforts. 2) The police must also be accountable. White pointed out that the police authorities under Saddam Hussein were only accountable to their chain of command and the political leadership. There was no media oversight, no Parliamentary controls, and no

independent review mechanism. 3) The police must also be representative, according to White's schema. In practice this means recruiting Kurds and women, both under-represented in the present force structure. 4) The police must also be open and transparent. 5) His fifth standard for success is that the police must be - and be seen to be - impartial and free from political control.

Earning Iraqi "Buy-in"

16. (SBU) White is under no illusions that the current criminal justice system fulfills any of these standards. The most pressing need for the officers and their chiefs is weaponry and ammunition in order to safeguard their own lives. Still, he hopes to break down existing barriers of mistrust between the various components of the criminal justice system, and improve collaboration among the services. His goal is to ensure that the component of policing that comes in contact with the public demonstrates some community awareness and increases Iraqi involvement in securing law and order. Given the current security situation, he acknowledges that the community police may have to work within an outer perimeter established by commando units or military forces, but he sees positive personal contacts as vital if the police are to shed their image as agents of the "occupiers."

Comment

17. (C) White is a pragmatic cop, who has survived attempts on his life by the IRA. However, he made it clear that in carrying out this mission, he is on a very short political leash. This is to be seen as an EU mission. The liaison team in Baghdad will be housed in the British Embassy compound. While he is open to collaboration with the US on the ground, he asks that we understand his need for discretion in contacts with US counterparts. He attributed the political sensitivity specifically to French and German insistence that the EU mission not be publicly associated with US operations. Acting A/S Bradtke nonetheless encouraged the EU to closely coordinate with the US during April 11 consultations. He provided Council and Commission interlocutors as well as the Luxembourg presidency a list of U.S. officials in Amman and Baghdad already engaged in police training and judiciary and corrections management.

Baghdad Minimize Considered

Schnabel

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